

Message Text

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ORIGIN CEA-01

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APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:LGRANT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 037294

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNEV, JA

SUBJECT: FIRST MEETING OF US-JAPAN JOINT PLANNING AND
COORDINATION COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
COOPERATION

REF: STATE 020390, TOKYO 0785, STATE 35111

1. WE ARE CONCERNED OVER INDICATIONS THE JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT MAY NOT BE TAKING PLANNED MEETING OF
JOINT COMMISSION SUFFICIENTLY SERIOUSLY FOR ADEQUATE
ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT.

THE MAKE-UP OF THE JAPANESE DELEGATION AND THE
JAPANESE UNWILLINGNESS TO HAVE THE MEETING MAKE

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RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE EMPHASIZED OUR CONCERN.

2. ON OUR SIDE, DR. RUSSELL W. PETERSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE MAY 1974 MEETING AS U.S. "MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT", PLANS TO CHAIR THE TWO-DAY JOINT COMMISSION MEETING AND BE PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. AT LEAST FROM THE U.S. SIDE WE WERE PREPARED TO CONSIDER THIS A "MINISTERIAL LEVEL" MEETING UNDER ART. 2 OF THE AGREEMENT, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN WILLING TO ACCEPT THE JAPANESE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND NOT INSIST ON FORMAL DESIGNATION OF THE MEETING AS SUCH.

3. THE USG DOES WISH THE MEETING TO SHOW SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS TOWARD OBJECTIVES OF THE AGREEMENT AND THUS DR. PETERSON INTENDS TO HAVE THE MEETING REVIEW BROADLY ACTIVITIES UNDER THE NINE PROGRAM AREAS AND DISCUSS FUTURE PLANS FOR THESE AND POSSIBLY OTHER AREAS. EVEN THOUGH CO-CHAIRMEN OF THOSE NINE AREAS ARE NOT EACH PRESENT WE ASSUME THAT JAPANESE DELEGATION WILL HAVE PERSONS WHO CAN AT LEAST RESPOND UNDER ITEM I OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA TO BROAD POLICY ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM AREAS, THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY DETAILED TECHNICAL ASPECTS. CERTAINLY WE WILL EXPECT THE MEETING TO BE ABLE TO COME OUT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT, AND NOT BE PREVENTED IN ADVANCE FROM DOING SO, OR ELSE WE SEE LITTLE REASON FOR MEETING IN ITS PRESENT FORMAT.

4. IF YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH EA OFFICIALS CONCERNING STATE 3511 INDICATE THAT GOI IS NOT PREPARED TO SEND A DELEGATION OF A COMPOSITION AND WITH POWERS ADEQUATE TO ABOVE PURPOSES (PARA 3 ABOVE), EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DISCUSS THESE U.S. VIEWS OF THE MEETING AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO IMPRESS ON JAPANESE THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE U.S. SIDE IS TAKING THE MEETING, AND TO REPORT ITS ASSESSMENT OF JAPANESE INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE MEETING. KISSINGER

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